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5/21/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:
Tajima

Serial No: 09/813,707

Filed: 03/21/2001

For: SUPPORT FOR SUBSTANCES
FOR DETECTION, APPARATUS
FOR PROCESSING SAME,
METHOD OF PROCESSING
SAME, APPARATUS FOR
MAKING SAME, AND METHOD
OF MAKING SAME

Group Art Unit: 1577

Examiner: Unknown

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in chronological order and are not in any order based on their pertinence. Copies of the listed information are attached.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

The undersigned first became aware of the cited patents by their inclusion in an International Search Report issued by the Japanese Patent Office on June 19, 2001, the foreign counterpart of the present application. A copy of the search report is enclosed.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,



Warren B. Kice
Reg. No. 22,732

Date:

5/13/02

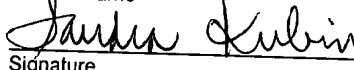
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 13, 2002.

SANDRA KUBIN

Printed Name



Signature

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

OTHER PRIOR ART

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered